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United States Information Agency

Washington, D.C. 20547

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May 13, 1983

Dear Bill:

I have written to Cap Weinberger asking that some photographs in DOD's possession be declassified so that they can be used in our information programs abroad. The photos, which I recently saw in a CINCPAC briefing given by Admiral Long, are of the Soviet military buildup at Cam Ranh Bay in Vietnam.

Copies of my letters are attached. They explain why these photos would be so useful to USIA in our effort to inform important audiences in the Pacific area of the military buildup by the Soviet Union and their surrogate, Vietnam, and the threat that this poses to their countries and to us.

If you share my conviction that the use of these photos as described would well serve our country's interest, and if they could be declassified without harm to our national security, I would much appreciate your supporting my request.

sincerely,

Charles Z. Wick

Director

The Honorable William J. Casey Director Central Intelligence Agency



Office of the Director

United States Information Agency

Washington, D.C. 20547



May 13, 1983

Dear Cap:

I have just returned from a trip to Singapore, Indonesia, Thailand and Japan. My last stop was in Honolulu where I and all of USIA's East Asian Public Affairs Officers were given a briefing by CINCPAC Admiral Robert Long. The Admiral's briefing impressed on all of us the growing threat to the area posed by the continuing Soviet military buildup, most particularly at Cam Ranh Bay in Vietnam. The photographic evidence we were shown is indisputable evidence of such a buildup and such a threat.

Some of the leaders I met on my trip warned that others are only vaguely aware of the extent of this Soviet military activity on their doorstep. I am told, for example, that in New Zealand important opposition political leaders dismiss talk of a threat as "cold war rhetoric." They should be shown the evidence that we were shown by Bob Long.

The photos I am referring to are classified and thus unavailable for use by our Agency officers. Attempts at the sub-cabinet level at the Pentagon to have them declassified have been unsuccessful. If you could, without danger to our national interest, declassify a half-dozen or so of the Cam Ranh Bay photos in CINCPAC's possession and make them available for use by USIA, we would have them placed in the Asian press and on TV. It would be of great help in our effort to get across the facts about the dangerous growth of Soviet military power and that of their surrogates.

If it is possible to meet this request, could you kindly identify the officer with whom our people could work out the details? I am sending similar letters to Bill Casey and Judge Clark.

Sincerely,

Charles Z. Wick

Director

The Honorable Casper W. Weinberger Secretary of Defense Approved For Release 2008/05/07 : CIA-RDP88B00831R000100210033-4

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Charles Z. Wick Director

The Honorable Judge William P. Clark. Jr. Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs



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